

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINSHA 07040 270830Z

ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 AID-05 OMB-01

TRSE-00 ABF-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /042 W

-----092778 270923Z /15

R 270715Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4831

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 7040

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, CG

SUBJECT: UNHCR REP WOODWARD ON STATUS OF CABINDAN REFUGEES

1. UNHCR REP WOODWARD REPORTED RESULTS AND IMPRESSIONS OF HIS JUNE 27-JULY 1 VISIT TO CABINDAN REFUGEE AREAS IN BAS FLEUVE IN TWO RECENT MEETINGS WITH EMBASSY POLCONS AND AMBASSADOR. WOODWARD NOTED A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN TOTAL REFUGEE POPULATION DURING HIS VISIT, SURPASSING PREVIOUS ESTIMATES. HE WAS ABLE TO OBTAIN APPROVAL OF LOCAL GOZ OFFICIALS FOR TWO MORE SITES FOR REFUGEE ENCAMPMENTS IN LUKULA ZONE WHERE INCREASE WAS GREATEST.

2. WOODWARD STATED THAT HE FOUND REFUGEE SITUATION IN TSHELA ZONE LARGELY UNCHANGED FROM HIS UNDERSTANDING OF IT AT TIME OF LOWMAN VISIT TO REGION. TOTAL REFUGEE POPULATION IN ZONE WAS APPROXIMATELY 12,000 INCLUDING THE FAIRLY WELL-ESTABLISHED 3,200 REFUGEES AT THE MBUKU TEMBE CAMP. THE ZONE'S FRONTIER WITH CABINDA CONTINUES TO BE CLOSED AND ONLY A VERY FEW NEW ARRIVALS ARE EXPECTED FROM THAT DIRECTION.

3. HOWEVER, DURING WOODWARD'S VISIT IT WAS DETERMINED THAT THE PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED SITE FOR ANOTHER REFUGEE CAMP IN THE COLLECTIVITY OF TSANGA-NORD COULD NOT BE USED, NOR COULD ANY OTHER SUITABLE SITE BE FOUND. LOCAL OFFICIALS HAD RECEIVED ANONYMOUS LETTERS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KINSHA 07040 270830Z

FROM WITHIN CABINDA WHICH THREATENED THE DESTRUCTION OF ANY NEW REFUGEE SETTLEMENTS IN TSHELA ZONE AND SPECIFICALLY THE TSANGA-NORD SITE IF IT WAS USED. AS THE BORDER SITUATION REMAINS PRECARIOUS AND THERE IS IN ANY CASE A SHORTAGE OF FERTILE LAND AT A REASONABLE DISTANCE FROM THE BORDER IN TSHELA, IT WAS DECIDED BY ALL CONCERNED TO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE TWO NEW SITES WITHIN LUKULA ZONE. UNHCR WOULD, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO SUPPORT

THE MBUKU TEMBE CAMP AND KUIMBA HOSPITAL AS AGREED DURING THE JAEGER/NOEL MISSION.

4. THE SITUATION IN LUKULA ZONE WAS FOUND TO HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY ALTERED DUE TO THE ARRIVAL OF 7,049 NEW REFUGEES BY THE END OF MAY. OFFICIALS TOLD WOODWARD THAT THEY HAD BEEN REGISTERING OVER 500 NEW ARRIVALS DAILY FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. ALTHOUGH FINAL FIGURES FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30 WERE NOT YET AVAILABLE, THE TOTAL REFUGEE POPULATION IN THE ZONE CAN BE EXPECTED TO TOP 17,000. INCLUDING THE ESTIMATED 6,000 AROUND MOANDA, THERE ARE NOW OVER 35,000 CABINDAN REFUGEES IN THE BAS FLEUVE REGION.

5. THIS NEW INFORMATION WAS FORTUNATELY BALANCED BY WOODWARD'S SUCCESS IN OBTAINING GOZ APPROVAL FOR A REFUGEE ENCAMPMENT AT LUNDU MATENDE IN THE COLLECTIVITY OF TSANDI-SUD. THIS NEW SITE IN LUKULA ZONE HAS EMPTY PAVILIONS, STOREROOMS AND AN EXISTING DISPENSARY. THE SITE IS ABOUT 45 KILOMETERS FROM THE CABINDAN FRONTIER AND HAS THE CAPACITY TO HOUSE AN ADVANCE PARTY OF 200 MEN WHO WILL BEGIN TO PREPARE THE LAND WHICH CAN ACCOMMODATE AN EVENTUAL POPULATION OF 4,000 FAMILIES. A SECOND ADDITIONAL SITE WAS IDENTIFIED AT KAKONGO IN KIMBENZA-KIMBIYANA COLLECTIVITY. WOODWARD OBTAINED APPROVAL FOR BOTH SITES IN WRITING FROM THE CHIEF OF ZONE IN LUKULA AND FROM THE SUB-COMMISSIONER FOR THE BAS FLEUVE REGION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KINSHA 07040 270830Z

6. UNHCR ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE USE OF THESE SITES WILL REQUIRE THAT SEVERAL THOUSAND PEOPLE BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE FRONTIER AREAS AND THAT MANY OF THEM WILL NEED ASSISTANCE IN THE MOVE. THE AIDR AGENT IN BAS FLEUVE, HOUBBEN, IS ALREADY INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITY OF HIRING TRUCKS FOR AS LONG AS A MONTH. THE TRUCKS WOULD BE USED PRIMARILY TO MOVE SUPPLIES TO THE VARIOUS SITES BUT COULD ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MOVE SOME OF THE REFUGEES AS NEEDED. HOWEVER, WOODWARD NOTED THAT THESE EFFORTS AND THE SEVERE INFLATION RATE HAVE ALREADY MADE OBSOLETE THE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET REQUEST SUBMITTED TO GENEVA ON MAY 30.

7. WOODWARD NOTED TO THE AMBASSADOR THAT GENEVA WOULD BE CONSIDERING THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR IN OCTOBER. HE EMPHASIZED THAT CONTINUED UNHCR EFFORT ON BEHALF OF CABINDANS DURING NEXT YEAR WAS IMPORTANT TO THEIR SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVING SELF-SUFFICIENCY, AND THAT THIS CONTINUING SUPPORT -- INCLUDING THE OPERATION OF THE TWO NEW CAMPS -- WOULD REQUIRE AN INCREASE IN THE UNHCR'S BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR CABINDAN REFUGEES. OBVIOUSLY, HE NOTED, THE POSITION OF THE U.S. WOULD BE VERY INFLUENTIAL IN THE DECISION TO APPROVE OR NOT. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT WE WOULD SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL. THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE UNHCR'S APPARENT PROGRESS IN MEETING

THE NEEDS OF THE CABINDAN REFUGEES AND THE COOPERATION IT WAS RECEIVING FROM THE GOZ. HE SAID IT WAS EVIDENT THAT THE USG WISHED TO BE AS SUPPORTIVE AS POSSIBLE AND HE THEREFORE ASSUMED WASHINGTON WOULD BE SYMPATHETIC TO THE PROPOSED BUDGET INCREASE. THE AMBASSADOR ADDED THAT IN THE PAST THE MISSION AND US VOLAGS WORKING WITH CABINDAN REFUGEES HAD EXPERIENCED PROBLEMS IN ELICITING THE FULL COOPERATION OF UNHCR-KINSHASA; AND HE EXPRESSED THE PERSONAL VIEW THAT THE ASSURANCE OF STRONGER LEADERSHIP AND BETTER COOPERATION OF UNHCR-KINSHASA IN THE FUTURE WOULD FACILITATE US SUPPORT OF AN EXPANDED UNHCR PROGRAM FOR CABINDA. WOODWARD ACKNOWLEDGED THIS POINT AND SAID HE AGREED COMPLETELY.

CUTLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, REFUGEE CAMPS, POPULATION MOVEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KINSHA07040
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770267-0749
Format: TEL
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770715/aaaaamgy.tel
Line Count: 128
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: de008663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1737008
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNHCR REP WOODWARD ON STATUS OF CABINDAN REFUGEES
TAGS: SREF, CG, AO, UNHCR
To: STATE GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/de008663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009